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Letter dated 29 September 1998 from the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency to the Secretary-General of the United Nations

I refer to the resolution adopted on 25 September 1998 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its forty-second session, entitled "Measures against illicit trafficking in nuclear materials and other radioactive sources" (see annex).

In preambular paragraph (f) of that resolution, the General Conference noted that the United Nations General Assembly has undertaken the elaboration of an international convention on the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism. In paragraph 7 of the same resolution, the General Conference requested me to bring said resolution to the attention of the United Nations General Assembly and invited the General Assembly, in elaborating the above-mentioned convention, to bear in mind the Agency's activities in preventing and combating illicit trafficking in nuclear material and other radioactive sources.

Article VII, paragraph 3, of the Agreement concerning the Relationship between the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency provides, *inter alia*, that written statements presented by the Agency to the United Nations for distribution shall be distributed by the Secretariat of the United Nations to all members of the appropriate organ or organs of the United Nations. As a Working Group of the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly is currently meeting to continue work on the elaboration of said international convention, I would be most grateful if you could arrange for the distribution of the enclosed resolution of the General Conference to the members of the General Assembly.

(Signed) Mohamed **ElBaradei**

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Annex

Measures against illicit trafficking in nuclear materials and other radioactive sources

Resolution adopted on 25 September 1998 during the 10th plenary meeting

The General Conference,

(a) *Recalling* its resolutions GC(XXXVIII)/RES/15, GC(39)/RES/18, GC(40)/RES/17 and GC(41)/RES/17 on measures against illicit trafficking in nuclear materials and other radioactive sources,

(b) *Noting* the programme for preventing and combating illicit trafficking in nuclear material agreed upon by the participants in the Moscow Nuclear Summit of April 1996 contained in document INFCIRC/509,

(c) *Welcoming* the confirmation of participants at the Denver Summit of June 1997 on their commitment to implement the "Programme for Prevention and Combating Illicit Trafficking in Nuclear Materials",

(d) *Noting also* that a meeting of the "International Conference on Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials: Experience in Regulation, Implementation and Operations", took place in Vienna from 10 to 14 November 1997,

(e) *Noting further* that the Agency, together with the European Commission, the World Customs Organization and the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol), organized the "International Conference on the Safety of Radiation Sources and the Security of Radioactive Materials" in Dijon, France, from 14 to 18 September 1998, and

(f) *Noting* that the United Nations General Assembly has undertaken the elaboration of an international convention on the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism (United Nations General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996),

1. *Takes note* of the progress report submitted by the Secretariat in document GC(42)/17;

2. *Welcomes* the activities in the fields of prevention, response, training and information exchange undertaken by the Secretariat in support of efforts against illicit trafficking;

3. *Also welcomes* the completion of the development phase of the database on illicit trafficking;

4. *Invites* the Director General to submit a report to the Board of Governors on possibilities of enhancing cooperation in this field;

5. *Also invites* the Director General to continue working during the coming year in accordance with the relevant conclusions of the Board of Governors;

6. *Requests* the Director General to submit a report to the General Conference at its next regular session on activities undertaken by the Agency in the intervening period; and

7. *Requests* the Director General to bring the present resolution to the attention of the United Nations General Assembly and *invites* the United Nations General Assembly, in elaborating the above-mentioned convention, to bear in mind the Agency's activities in preventing and combating illicit trafficking in nuclear material and other radioactive sources.